THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) and (b) The criteria for admission to the Post-Graduate courses at AIIMS is that a candidate must possess MBBS degree and must have completed the required period of Pre-Registration internship in a recognised hospital. The candidate must have obtained 55 per cent marks in the aggregate in all the MBBS professional examinations. Candidates with more than two failures in MBBS examination are not eligible for admission to MD/MS/ Mch. (5 years) courses. In the case of SC/ST candidates, they must have obtained not less than 50 per cent marks in aggregate in MBBS examination. The candidates who have worked in the Armed Forces are given 5 per cent additional marks for determining their eligibility. Candidates who are in the service of State/ Central Government for three years are given 3 per cent additional marks for determining their eligibility.

(c) and (d) Besides the constitutional reservation for SC/ST candidates, 33 per cent seats are reserved for Institute graduates. 5 per cent of the total seats are reserved for those (a) who have served in the rural areas for more than two years (b) doing practice in the Rural Areas for more than two years (c) Medical graduates of backward areas and (d) who are working under the Family Welfare Programme.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

(h) and (i) Do not arise.

Health care and Health Insurance Systems

654. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the existing health care system and health insurance system in India are inadequate as the country spends only 1.5 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product, as against 4.8 per cent of GDP recommended by the World Health Organisation;

(b) whether former President of the American Association of Indian Physicians, Dr. Navin Saha, recently met senior officials of the Health Ministry and gave concrete proposals in connection with various schemes launched by the Indian doctors in the U.S. for the benefit of their motherland;

(c) whether Government feel that privatisation of health insurance would be a boon to India, particularly for its estimated 30 million people in the salaried class, as is the case in the U.S.: and

(d) whether it is a fact that the existing health insurance policies in India are more troublesome than the ailment itself, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 14th February, 1995: if so, what remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) According to Human Development Report, 1994 of the United Nation Development Programme, the percentage of public expenditure on health in India is 1.3 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (1990). However, the total expenditure on health (public and private) as per that Report is 6 per cent of GDP (1990).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Insurance is voluntary and any person is free to join the available health insurance schemes in the country.

(d) Health insurance schemes are formulated by the Insurance Companies after considering various relevant factors including, *inter alia* the probability of health risks.

Heart attacks in the country

655. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over two crore people in India above 30 years of age had hypertension or high blood pressure, with the result that over 1.5 crore people of that age suffer from coronary artery disease, while over 25 lakh people had heart attacks with a high mortality rate, as stated by Dr. P. K. Khanna, President of the International Conference on Cardiology, held in New Delhi in February, 1995; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to check the increasing menace of heart attacks in the country indicating the budgetary provisions made for this purpose and the amount spent so far on research for controlling cardiology related disease during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) The Indian Council of Medical Research has estimated that the prevalence rate of Coronery Heart Disease is 40 per thousand in the age group of 30 and above. The prevalence rates increase with age as also increase in population and higher life expectancy.

(b) A number of measures have been taken which *inter alia* include upgradation of Cardiology departments in super-speciality hospitals campaigns for creating awareness about correct food habits and healthy life styles. Funds have also been allocated for research in Cardiology.

Continuation of AIIMS doctors' stir

656. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 20th February, 1995 captioned "AIIMS Doctors" stir continues"

(b) if so, what are the demands of the striking Resident Doctors' Association, indicating as to who is creating hurdles in the way of negotiated sattlement and by when an agreement is likely to be reached in this regard, to avoid spreading of the agitation at an All India level, alongwith the details of progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) whether the unwillingness of former Union Health Minister from stepping down from the office of the President of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has led to a state of confusion and crisis and what are the provisions/rules made in this regard under the AIIMS Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The striking Resident Doctors are demanding reinstatement of Dr. Panka Upadhyaya a Senior Resident Doctor doing M. Ch. course in Neurosurgery a AIIMS, whose services were terminated for incompetence and indiscipline Dr Pankaj Upadhyaya has not preferred an appeal as per rlues. The AIIMS Faculty have rejected the demand for his reinstatement.

(c) The President of AIIMS is nominated by the Central Government under section 7 (1) of the AIIMS Act, 1956 No tenure has been prescribed under the said Act for the office of the President.